



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroyuki KASHIHARA et al.

Application No.: 10/743,099

Filed: December 23, 2003

Docket No.: 118190

For: OPTICAL FIBER PROBE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of the reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini
Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/tje
Date: February 20, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
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Form PTO-1449
(REV. 8-83)US Dept. of Commerce
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
118190APPLICATION NO.
10/743,099

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)
Hiroyuki KASHIHARA et al.FILING DATE
December 23, 2003

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|-------|--------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
|--|--|-------------------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|
| | | JP U 4-98010 w/abstract | 08/25/1992 | Japan | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: February 20, 2004